ARKANSAS BROILER HATCHERY

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NATIONAL AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS SERVICE U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

ARKANSAS AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS SERVICE

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ARKANSAS CHICK PLACEMENTS DOWN 5 PERCENT FROM LAST YEAR

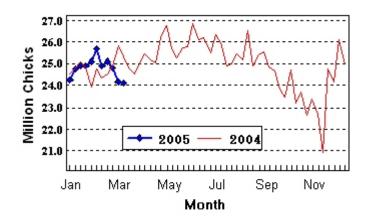
Broiler-type chicks placed for meat production in Arkansas was 24.1 million during the week ending March 12, 2005. Placements were down 5 percent from the comparable week in 2004, and down slightly from the revised previous week, and included 2.4 million chicks shipped in from other states.

The broiler-type chicks hatched for the week was 26.1 million, up 3 percent from the corresponding week a year earlier, and up 1 percent from the previous week. Of the total hatch, 4.1 million chicks were shipped out of the state. Average hatchability for chicks hatched was 83.8 percent.

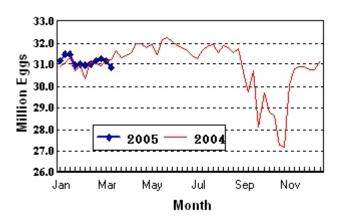
Arkansas hatcheries set 30.9 million broiler-type eggs during the week ending March 12, 2005, down 1 percent from both the same period last year, and from the previous week.

	NET PLACEMENTS			CHIC	CKS HATC	HED	EGGS SET			
Week			%			%			%	
Ending	2004	2005	Change	2004	2005	Change	2004	2005	Change	
	1,	000		1,	000		1,000			
Feb. 5	24,766	25,702	104	25,821	26,367	102	30,374	30,987	102	
Feb. 12	24,386	24,929	102	25,491	25,911	102	31,055	31,020	100	
Feb. 19	24,508	25,110	102	25,694	25,934	101	31,033	31,179	100	
Feb. 26	24,911	24,831	100	25,002	25,908	104	30,948	31,259	101	
Mar. 5	25,837	24,187	94	25,559	25,946	102	31,160	31,198	100	
Mar. 12	25,314	24,141	95	25,468	26,142	103	31,225	30,867	99	

CHICKS PLACED IN ARKANSAS, 2004-2005



EGGS SET, 2004 - 2005



BROILEREGGS SET AND CHICKS PLACED IN 19 MAJOR STATES BY WEEKS, 2005

	EGGS SET (in Thousands)					CHICKSPLACED (in Thousands)						
	Week Ending				1/	Week Ending						1/
STATE	19-Feb	26-Feb	05-Mar	12-Mar	%	05-Feb	12-Feb	19-Feb	26-Feb	05-Mar	12-Mar	%
Alabama	30,346 *	29,754	30,331	30,074	100	21,150	21,630	21,582	21,639	21,620	21,525	99
ARKANSAS	31,179 *	31,259	31,198	30,867	99	25,702	24,929	25,110	24,831	24,187 *	24,141	95
Delaware	3,927	3,929	3,955	3,906	105	5,402	5,314	5,039	6,723	5,948	6,085	127
Florida	1,359	1,357	1,358	1,359	102	1,500	1,500	1,540	1,437	1,503	1,305	73
Georgia	33,449 *	33,611	33,030 *	33,375	102	27,067	26,377	26,777	27,162	27,700 *	27,155	103
Kentucky	7,276 *	7,392	7,265 *	6,995	100	6,275	6,305	6,368	6,286	5,679 *	6,242	105
Louisiana	4,044	4,043	4,044	4,044	108	3,915	3,830	3,814	3,746	3,581	4,140	115
Maryland	8,947	8,931	8,972	8,977	102	5,319	4,745	5,697	4,214	5,122	4,921	87
Mississippi	19,465	19,277	19,314	19,465	102	17,559	18,184	17,890	17,963	17,817	17,544	106
N. Carolina	18,474 *	18,202	18,870	18,682	99	14,540	14,668	14,893	14,556	15,140	14,881	98
Oktahoma	6,306	6,426	6,386	6,346	99	5,165	5,258	5,065	5,560	6,359	5,452	108
Pennsylvania	4,278	3,881	3,982 *	4,010	100	2,963	2,878	3,104	3,166	3,007 *	3,088	118
S. Carolina	5,167	5,279	5,281 *	5,283	138	4,152	4,722	4,560	4,449	3,957	4,633	125
Texas	15,207	15,240	15,155	15,119	100	11,661	12,814	12,768	12,714	12,739	12,897	105
Virginia	6,424	6,528	6,525	6,554	99	4,826	5,385	5,220	5,372	4,447 *	4,997	100
CA,MO,TN,WV	<u>18,012</u> *	17 <u>,909</u> *	18 <u>,41</u> 4 *	18,007	101	15,732	16,965	1 <u>6,455</u>	17,108	<u>17,270 *</u>	1 <u>7,607</u>	<u>117</u>
Total 2005	213,860 *	213,018 *	* 214,080 *	213,063		172,928	175,504	175,882	176,926	176,076 *	176,613	
<u>Total 2004</u>	<u>20</u> 9 <u>,84</u> 4	210 <u>,86</u> 4	210 <u>,31</u> 3	<u>210,601</u>		168 <u>93</u> 7	<u>167,265</u>	<u>167,39</u> 0_	<u>168,31</u> 9	<u>16</u> 9 <u>,20</u> 8	<u>170,698</u>	
%Prev. Year	102	101	102	101		102	105	105	105	104	103	
Approximate Mark	œting Date 2	2005			26-Mar	02-Apr	09-Apr	16-Apr	23-Apr	30-Apr		

^{*} Revised . 1/ Current week as percent of the same week last year.

EGGS SET IN 19 SELECTED STATES UP 1 PERCENT

Commercial hatcheries in the 19-state weekly program set 213 million eggs during the week ending March 12, 2005. This was up 1 percent from the eggs set the corresponding week a year earlier. Average hatchability for chicks hatched during the week was 84 percent. Average hatchability is calculated by dividing chicks hatched during the week by eggs set three weeks earlier.

BROILER CHICKS PLACED UP 3 PERCENT

Broiler growers in the 19-state weekly program placed 177 million chicks for meat production during the week ending March 12, 2005. Placements were up 3 percent from the comparable week a year earlier. Cumulative placements from January 2, 2005 through March 12, 2005 were 1.75 billion, up 4 percent from the same period a year earlier.